

plex questions which agitate the Canadian mind from time to time have an aspect indicative of trouble. But the peculiarity of the politics of this great colony is that the points in its internal policy, and the rivalry between its different religions and racial elements, are at least as difficult to deal with as its relations with the parent and other States. Matters of intense significance, clouds scarcely bigger than a man's hand, may arise at any moment, and it is satisfactory to know that a statesman of the ability and experience of Sir John Young is equal to such contingencies."

On the first of the present month the much talked of Militia Act came into force. An immense deal has been said and written in anticipation of the probable effect of the new law upon the Volunteer service. As yet we have had scarcely sufficient time to judge of its workings, but it is apparent that in Ontario it will be found perhaps altogether unnecessary to enforce the draft, where a sufficient number of Volunteers have always, and are now, easily obtained. In Quebec it may be somewhat different, but from the peculiar character of the people of that province, the provisions of the draft is not so likely to cause discontent, for it is in fact merely a re-establishment of the system under which they so successfully defended their country in former days, and is for them evidently well adapted. We apprehend however that, if the Government relies upon the Volunteer Force, more encouragement will have to be extended to those who volunteer, especially to the officers, who, if they are not well backed, will not be able to offer inducements sufficient to keep their ranks up to the standard of efficiency required.

The state of Volunteering in the Maritime Provinces is nearly, if not quite, up to Ontario, but the force being essentially a popular one, care should be taken to keep it popular. That it is popular is proved by the fact that nearly every week we see in General Orders the embodiment of new companies.

Last Monday, Col. MacDougall, Adjutant General, left Ottawa en route for England. Before his departure from this continent he is to visit West Point Military Academy, and draw up a report thereon for the information of the Canadian Government. Col. MacDougall's well known ability and experience will fit him for the task. During his absence Lt. Col. Powell, D. A. G., will perform his duties.

The remarks of our correspondent "A Volunteer Officer" fully bears out our observations in last issue of *This Review*. Rifle Matches are for the purpose he indicates, and the Volunteer private and non-commissioned officer should have the greater amount of prizes. As this is a matter which the Volunteers have in their own hands, we hope to see a difference in the future. As for the Dominion Association; we feel confident

another meeting will show a great change for the better in this respect.

It is time the people of the Dominion of Canada began to realise their position, and rise above the country village way of thinking and acting to which they have so long accustomed themselves. As, in the small literary world we possess, a few quiet workers are slowly building up a literature for our country, so ought those who hold influence over the thoughts of our people by their power in the Press endeavour to build up the national idea. Teaching them that they are no longer mere provincials but the fathers of a great nation—who have in their hands the education of children, who are destined to take their part in the great theatre of nations. Paltry distinctions of provincial life should now be forgotten. It matters little whether a man comes from New Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario or anywhere else within the borders of the Empire so long as he is worthy in the path he has chosen. What we want to destroy is prejudice of every sort, whether it be of religion or nationality; what we want to create is *Canadian nationality*. Such we are well convinced is not the growth of a day or a generation, neither is our nationality of the growth of yesterday. The Canadian idea has ever been peculiar and distinct upon this continent, and that idea has never been subordinate, but, on the contrary, it has always exercised a leading influence. That influence is increasing and is destined to rival that of the great republic to the south of us. We have no room in the Dominion now for the distinction of English, French, Irish, Scotch, or German—all are or must be Canadian. We extend to all equal rights of citizenship, and all are alike in the eyes of the law.

We are led to make these remarks from having heard observations lately in reference to the trial of Whelan which require correction. A man cannot commit crime in Canada with impunity, because he happens to belong to a powerful class. One man is not hung for being Irish and another let off because he happens to be French. All places are not like the fair country "over the river"; and the idea should be sternly combatted that a man on account of being this or that secures immunity for evil doing. Such is not the case and the vulgar error—unfortunately vulgar errors linger long in the under strata of society—should meet with contradiction on every occasion.

In our last issue was completed the series of papers relating to the Campaigns of 1754-64. No writer who has as yet attempted to give an account of these wars which preceded, and in part led to the two greatest revolutions of modern times, has handled his subject in a more masterly manner than the author of these "Campaigns," or who has shown more research, or given a more complete picture of the extraordinary circumstances which he reviewed.

We are happy to inform our readers that we will shortly be enabled to present them with further historical sketches from the same vigorous pen.

CHICAGO FENIANS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Hamilton Times* thus describes a Fenian rendezvous in Chicago:

"On the Sabbath, which I spent in Chicago, I enquired if there was a Fenian Lodge in the city, was answered in the affirmative, and that the lodge would be in session at three o'clock on that day. Throwing my religious scruples aside, I expressed my determination to go to the lodge room, cross the portals, and if possible enter the sanctum sanctorum of that so-called most unsanctimonious body. My friend laughed at me, and on being told that I was not as yet a fully-fledged Fenian, assured me that I was undertaking a very perilous task to beard the lion in his den. Desiring to place myself in as safe hands as possible, I inquired if there were any Protestant Fenians; and receiving the wished-for reply, that there were several, of whom John Hall, Esq., merchant, on Washington street, was one, I sallied forth to the wigwam of Ireland's defenders. Ascending a winding staircase to the top of a six-story building, I entered a room about the size of St. James' Hall, upon the walls of which were hung several flags, including the sunburst and others emblematic of the Order. Having introduced myself to Mr. Hall, who is one of the Centres, and expressed a desire to learn as much as possible respecting the Brotherhood, he politely assured me that he would give me all the information which he could consistently afford outsiders. He showed me the roll-call, which represented a force of upwards of 600 men in that lodge alone. He also conducted me through the armoury, along the sides and centre of which were arranged the rifles, bayonets, &c. He did not have with him the key to the room in which the clothing or ammunition were stored. There were three double rows of well-kept and apparently serviceable rifles on either side of the room. I carefully counted each row, and found them to contain 170 rifles, which would give a total of something over 2,000 stand of arms; which were alleged to be ready for service at any moment. As soon as we returned to the council chamber Mr. Hall introduced me to several of his compatriots, all of whom expressed their hopes that our next shaking of hands would be in Canada. They did not hesitate to say that a dash would be made upon Canada this Fall, but Canadians may believe as much of that as they please. Mr. Hall assured me that, with very few exceptions, there was not a city or town in Canada with the defensive strength of which he was not acquainted. When I told him that I was not altogether unacquainted with Hamilton, judge of my surprise when, on turning over the leaves of the book, I could be told the names and residences of men holding public situations in Hamilton, the exact location of the water works, height of the Desjardins bridge, and other matters which convinced me that he had had secret information. The true Americans here would give the Fenians credit were they to make a blow for Ireland on Irish soil, but as to their invading Canada, the U. S. Government will not assist, just as certainly as you will resist another raid, should one be attempted."